

Hebrews **10**: 'For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image_of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.

We saw that the Tabernacle, and later the Temple, were shadows of the reality, the True Temple, which is God's Throne Room in Heaven. It's as if you have the source of light, which is God Himself, and shining in the light of God's Glory is His Throne Room. As His light shines past the Throne Room down to the Earth, we see the shadow cast, which is the Tabernacle. When God gave Moses the Law on Mt. Sinai, He also showed him a scale model of the Tabernacle... remember back in chapter 8, '...God said, "See *that* you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.' The Tabernacle and Temple were always only copies, imitations of the real thing but they were also meant to be an Earthly picture of that into which we would eventually be welcomed by God... that which we would also eventually inhabit with God, as we rule and reign with the Lord Jesus Christ for 1000 years and then forever... during which time... forever... He will pour out His blessings, riches, glory and honor onto us... in His Throne Room. In fact, the reality is that we are already there, seated in Heavenly places with the Lord Jesus Christ Who is sitting at the right hand of the Father.

Paul wrote, 'But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.' Eph 2:4 It is an accomplished fact; we are already there with Him.

David wrote, 'One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple. Psa. 27:4

The sacrifices were only a shadow of that which was to come... and they, offered day after day, year after year, could never make anyone perfect. They were a shadow of what was to come, the perfect sacrifice, the Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. And the Law also is only a shadow and not the very image of the thing to come. The Lord Jesus Christ is the very image of God; He is God, He is One with the Father.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. Col 1:15

The Law's purpose is two-fold: it illustrates the Holiness and Righteousness of God as it contrasts with the unholiness and unrighteousness of all men and there we see its nature as a shadow. The Law is a shadow of the perfection of God, the perfection which would eventually, in Jesus Christ, be accorded to all men who come to God through faith in Him.

If we break down that first verse, it simply says, 'For the Law can never make those who approach perfect.' The implication being, something else was planned by God which would be able to make men perfect.

The Law has a shadow of the good things to come. What are the good things to come?

Verse 2: For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins.

If the sacrifices were perfect, they could have made those who offered them perfect but they were not, so they could not.

The Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God was the perfect sacrifice, offered only once, which did then perfect everyone who would come to Him in faith. He made us perfect. We are perfect in Him; it is another accomplished fact. You don't believe me? Let's cheat and look ahead a few verses to verse 14: 'For by one offering **He has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.' We are perfect now but we continue to be more and more sanctified by the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We were made perfect at the Cross. When we are taken up to meet the Lord Jesus Christ in the air at the Rapture, we will no longer be trapped within these physical bodies with sin natures. We will then receive our

complete Salvation in all its fullness. Then we will have purified, glorified eternal bodies like that of the Lord Jesus Christ. Then we will finally have no more consciousness of sins.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. 1 John 3:2

Our purification, like our sanctification, is a completed fact but they also seem to be an ongoing process through the work of the Holy Spirit.

The fact that we will have no consciousness of sin, no sin within us at all is an interesting thing to think about. Some believe that when we come before God the Father or the Lord Jesus Christ for the first time that we will fall down before Him, ashamed of the things we've done, ashamed of the sins that we've committed. Nothing could be further from the truth. We will have no sin and no consciousness of sin. What did Jesus say? 'Except you become as little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God.' Becoming like little children is not something we can ourselves... it must be done for us. We will be like little children, innocent, without guile, without deception, nothing hidden, running to meet our Heavenly Father who Himself has been anxiously awaiting our arrival. Little children don't cower before a father who loves them; they jump up and down, they scream and squeal with delight, they run and jump into their father's arms. That is how we will be when we have finally been completely delivered from these bodies of sin and our consciousness of sin.

Several times when Debbie and I have been making a border crossing into Shenzhen, China, we have arrived at the border at the same time that literally thousands of little children are crossing from Hong Kong at the end of their school day. It really is quite an experience... thousands of small children in a flock, always with too few shepherds, running around, yelling in their shrill little voices, each one carrying their own oversized backpack... the cacophony of noise they create is like nothing else, except maybe a turkey farm. That is the picture I see when thinking of our first meeting in the air and then in God's Throne Room after the Rapture.

Verse 3: But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

The Law and the Old Covenant were never meant to remove man's sin but rather, to vividly showcase it, to show us our sin and to remind us of our sin over and over again.

⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.

God specifically prepared a body for His Son to inhabit. In fact, He specifically preserved an ancestral line through which His Son's prepared body would be born.

When Adam and Eve sinned, God pronounced several curses resulting from their sin but He also gave the first promise of the coming Savior.

'So the LORD God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman,

And between your seed and her Seed;

He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

God promised that eventually a Savior would be born of a woman (her seed, not man's seed, indicating the virgin birth) Who would destroy Satan. (He shall bruise your head but you will only bruise His heel... you will only wound Him but He will kill you.)

Notice something else: He said that Satan would have a seed. (He said, ***your*** seed) God meant the same thing in prophesying Satan's seed as He did the woman's seed... physical progeny.

From that moment, Satan began planning how to keep the promised Savior, Who would eventually destroy him, from being born. The Savior had to be human... from the seed of the woman and we learned last time

that He had to be **fully** human... one of us so that He could be our Kinsman Redeemer. To keep that from happening, Satan planned to pollute the entire human race by corrupting their DNA through mating with fallen angels. Three chapters later we read of how fallen angels mated with human women, producing evil giants. Somehow, when fallen angels mated with human women, and they did physically mate with them... the offspring were a hybrid race of evil giants. Satan began this evil plan early, when it would not have required a huge number of women to cause the entire race to be infected with corrupted DNA. It says that they did it early, '**when men began to multiply on the Earth.**'

'There were giants on the earth in those days, **and also afterward**, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.' Gen 6:4

This is not fairy tales or storybooks. This is the reality that the Bible clearly teaches but that many human teachers prefer to pretend it is not in the Bible.

This demonic pollution became rampant throughout the Earth. In fact, the implication is that only Noah and his family remained free from the spreading pollution from the fallen angels. It says, 'But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, **perfect in his generations**. Noah walked with God. Gen 6:9 (this is just a few verses after telling of the fallen angels and human women producing giants.)

What does that phrase, **perfect in his generations**, mean? First, notice that generation is plural. It doesn't mean that He was the holiest man of his generation. It means that there is something unique about Noah, going all the way back through all the generations that produced him. '*Perfect*' is the Hebrew word, *tamiym*, which means, without spot or blemish. Obviously it doesn't mean sinless... 'for all have sinned'... It is the same word used of animals brought for sacrifice. Noah's generations are listed back to Adam and the entire line is unpolluted by what the fallen angels did.

Satan planned to keep the Savior from being born by not leaving any humans unpolluted. If there were no purely human people left, the promised Savior could never be born. But God did preserve an entire line from Adam to Noah, but again, the implication is that God destroyed all the human race because of the demonic pollution resulting in giants. It couldn't have been just because everyone was evil... most everyone is evil today. Evil has reigned throughout man's history but only previous the Flood was there rampant pollution of the human population's DNA.

Remember, it said, 'there were giants on the earth in those days **and also afterward**.

God destroyed all the evil demonic pollution in the flood... or did He?

Later, when God appeared to Abraham, after bringing him from Iraq to the land of Canaan, He promised that the Savior would come through Abraham's descendents and that they would be given all the land of Canaan. Once again, Satan tried to prevent the promise's fulfillment.

He again instigated demonic pollution of the human DNA in the land of Canaan. Not Egypt, not Italy, not Canada... Canaan... to prevent the possibility of the Savior being born to a fully human woman in the land of Canaan. 500 years later, when the Israelites entered Canaan, after the Exodus, the entire area was infested with evil giants... what a coincidence!

The infestation of giants in Canaan when the Israelites enter, 1000 years after the flood, came about in one of two ways. It could be that fallen angels once again mated with human women, producing giants, but the Bible doesn't tell us so. In fact, that is unlikely because Jude tells us that all of the fallen angels who sinned in that way have been kept in chains of darkness awaiting the final judgment, which would be an effective deterrent to other fallen angels. I doubt they would think any human woman is worth that kind of punishment.

'And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.' Jude 6

The more likely scenario, in which the DNA pollution reappeared in the population and especially in Canaan, is that the corrupted genes were carried by one of the wives of Noah's sons, Shem, Ham or Japheth. Let's see if we can figure out which one.

After the flood, the Bible says, 'And Noah began *to be* a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. ²¹ Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent. ²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. ²³ But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid *it* on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces *were* turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

²⁴ So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. ²⁵ Then he said: "Cursed *be* Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren." Gen 9:20

Notice that... 'Cursed be Canaan'... not Ham... it was the son of Ham who moved down to... Canaan which became filled with giants.

Ham's wife was the likely carrier of the demonically polluted DNA which she passed on to her son, Canaan who perhaps grew to be a giant himself, which would be why he could become the first king of that area around the Mediterranean with the land named after himself.

God preserved a purely human ancestral line through which His Son's human body would be born. Shem and his wife were unpolluted. From that line was born Abraham and Sarah, producing Isaac to Jacob and then all the tribes of Israel.

When God gave the Law, He gave very strict rules against intermarrying with any of the population outside of the Israelites... they were to have nothing to do with the peoples populating the Land of Canaan. In fact, the reason God commanded the Israelites to completely annihilate some of the groups, every man, woman and child as well as all the animals, was perhaps because of the same demonic pollution which caused Him to completely annihilate every man, woman and child in the Great Flood.

Jesus said that in the last days, it would be like the days of Noah and of Lot. The days of Noah were marked by angelic, demonic DNA pollution of humans, producing giants. The time of Lot was the same. We read of the time when Abraham rescued Lot. Those who had taken Lot had fought against populations filled with giants. We don't have time to look further into all of this but it is something to think about. We are in the last days and soon, something demonic and dastardly, something that has been kept hidden, is going to come out into the open... perhaps before the Rapture... perhaps just after.

God Himself prepared a body for His Son and He preserved the ancestral line through which He would be born from Adam, all the way down to Mary.

Verse 6: In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin You had no pleasure. ⁷ Then I said, 'Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God.' "

God had no pleasure in the sacrifices of millions of lambs, goats and calves. Jesus Christ said, 'The Scriptures tell of my coming... I have come to do Your will... to be the final sacrifice in which You actually do have pleasure. It gave God the Father pleasure to sacrifice His Son. How could that be! How could He take pleasure in His Son's crucifixion!

God was pleased to provide Himself as the final, perfect and complete sacrifice for sin which would perfect and make righteous all those He had chosen for Himself from before the foundation of the World. Abraham prophesied this very thing when Isaac asked his father why they had no lamb for the sacrifice when God had commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son, testing him.

And Isaac spoke unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? ⁸ And Abraham said, My son, **God will provide himself** a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. Gen 22

It pleased the Father to sacrifice His Son to open the way for us to come to Him. The Bible actually says that it pleased Him: 'Yet we esteemed Him stricken, ⁵ But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for

our iniquities... And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all... Yet **it pleased the LORD to bruise Him**; He has put *Him* to grief. Isaiah 53

Verse 8: 'Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and *offerings* for sin You did not desire, **nor had pleasure in them**" (which are offered according to the law)...

God established the Law and legislated the sacrifices to temporarily cover over sin but He had no pleasure in the deaths of His animals; He created each one and they were His. Every animal, every bird, every bug... every creature is an incredibly, unimaginably intricate creation to which God gave life. It made man's sin that much more despicable in that it necessitated the killing of God's animals.

Remember, after God created all of His creatures, great and small, He said, 'It is good.' Even though all of creation has been marred by man's sin, God has no pleasure in the killing of His creatures... except, I suppose, for food, clothing or protection.

Verse 9: then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will **we have been sanctified** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.

Jesus Christ willingly came to be born into a human body to be sacrificed on the Cross for our sin. God's will was the removal of the first Covenant so that the second, His last will and testament could come into force. His will was for Jesus Christ to die so that we could live eternally, so that we could be made perfect and holy, to have everlasting fellowship with God Who is Holy and Righteous... and His sacrifice was complete, offered only once, for all of us, to perfect us for all time.

Verse 11: And every priest stands ministering daily and **offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins**. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered **one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering **He has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.

Sacrificed animals can never take away sin. But this Man Jesus Christ and He had to be a man, a son of Adam... He had to be 100% human and without sin... no pollution from sin and no pollution from fallen angels mating with human women... only He... throughout all of human history... He was the only One Who could be that final, perfect sacrifice to pay the full penalty for all the sins of all time... of all those whom He and the Father had chosen from the foundation of the World. Then, after He took all those from Paradise in the good side of Sheol, the place of the dead, up to Heaven, after God then raised Him back to life in His new eternal glorified body, He sat down at the right hand of the Father... waiting until the Father tells Him, '**Go! It's time! Go in the clouds and retrieve every one I've chosen, all those I've given You to be Your Bride... Go, Son... the time has come!**' Imagine the rejoicing in Heaven when that moment arrives... and it might even be today!

Verse 15: But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, "This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," ¹⁷ then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, *there is* no longer an offering for sin.

After those days... remember, the writer is writing to Hebrews and he is referring to the Covenant God made with Israel. For Israel as a nation, that time will not come until the 70th week of Daniel's great prophecy has been completed... the 70th 'week of years' will be the final 7 years before the Lord Jesus Christ returns at Armageddon. Remember, the angel told Daniel that there would be 70 'weeks of years' 490 years, during which time they, as a nation, would be 'paying the full penalty' for their sin as a nation... their rebellion against God as His Covenant People. The angel told Daniel, ' "Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

The 490 years would commence when the proclamation was given to Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem, from the captivity in Babylon, to rebuild the city walls. The 490 years were split into 3 groups of 'weeks': 7 weeks

(49years), 62 weeks (434 years) and one final week (7 years). The first 483 years ended on the day Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem just 5 days before His crucifixion. Because Israel rejected Him as their King and called for His crucifixion, God set them aside as a nation and created the true Church, calling out Gentiles from every nation, tribe and tongue to be the Body and Bride of His Son. After God finishes building His special creation, the true Church, He will remove us in the Rapture and the final week, the final 7 years of Daniel's prophecy will begin; it will be the 7 year Tribulation here on Earth as God finishes dealing with Israel for their sin and rebellion and He pours out His wrath on the rebellious, unbelieving World of Men.

Finally, when Jesus Christ returns to Earth at the end of the final 7 years, at Armageddon, all the Hebrews still alive will suddenly believe... their eyes will have been opened by God and they will turn to the Lord Jesus Christ as their Messiah.

Then God will finally fulfill all His promises to Israel and then His laws will have been written on their hearts and minds. Then the Lord Jesus Christ will rule and reign over all the Earth from Jerusalem, with Israel as the head of all the Nations while we, the true Church, His Body and Bride will be ruling and reigning with Him for 1000 years and then forever.

When Jesus Christ was sacrificed as the perfect Lamb of God, instituting the New Covenant, all those who would come to Him in faith were perfected and God's laws were then written on their hearts and minds. The New Covenant came into effect for us then, including all Hebrews who would come to Him in faith but for Israel as a nation, it will not be finalized until Jesus Christ's return.

His laws are now written on our hearts and minds. We are under obligation to no law whatsoever as regards salvation, purification and sanctification.

Now we are waiting for His return for us in the clouds at the Rapture when we will experience the fullness and completion of our eternal salvation when we receive our new eternal glorified bodies like that of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

Keep looking up... it could be today. Continue walking in a manner worthy of the calling with which you've been called; walk worthy of the Lord.